## KMS Purple Pages

Kenai Middle School
Kenaí, Alaska
December 2023

## The Twelve Deys of Berble

By Sofia Tews, Molli Sansotta \& Kennedy Wortham


# The Twekve Days of Berbie 



Just hangin' out with the peeps!

10th Day


Showin' off their six-packs!

11th Day


Don't you get detention for this?

12th Day


Oh no! Not again!

## Opinion-8-ed

By Kelsie Bliss
What are your plans for Christmas break?


Izze Selanoff- "Going snowmachining with friends and family and hanging out with family."
Braylynn Young- "Hanging out with friends and family."
Indego Erikson- "Hanging out with family, friends, and others. And celebrating Christmas and Christmas Eve with my family."
Arianna Thompson- "Hanging out with friends and family and going to Florida."
Hallie Songer- "Me and my family are going to Hawaii. We also are going to go spearfishing and swimming!"
Bryleigh Williams- "I'm going to my hometown Fairbanks and coming back to do Christmas with my grandparents. I am also gonna play basketball at the Rec."

Kennah Gregory- "I plan to sleep and hang out with my family but also watch Grey's Anatomy." Kaia Dale-Johnson- "My cousins are coming up from Arizona and they're going to make me mad!" Leini Johansen- "I am going to play Fortnite with Layla and hang out with my family."


Rylee Trent- "Spending time with family and hanging out with friends."
Caden Miller- "I am hanging out with my family and friends and I'm going to relax."
Keira Forstner- "I'm going to hang out with my best friend and I'm going to be cleaning."
Selah Coots- "Celebrate Christmas but really I'm gonna go skating a bunch and I wanna hangout with my friends!"
Sophia Sturm- "Hanging out with Aries and hanging out with family."
PJ Matulin- "I'm staying home and hanging out with my family, and going to a Christmas party."
Kanyon Ley- "I'm going to hang out with my family and play Fortnite with my friends."
Ms. Waits- "I am going to visit my family and friends in Washington state. We also have a yearly tradition of a Christmas eve book swap with hot cocoa and tea."


## November Students of the Month

By Sofia Tews

We have very talented and perceptive students for our students of the month. There are four 6th graders, eight 7th graders, and three 8th graders. It is very impressive how many students in 7th grade got chosen, but we are proud of all the students this month!


7th Graders
Maricela Beckman (not pictured)

## Cor



Nolen James

## 8th Graders



Lily Taliesin


Teddy Dodge


Riley McGahan


Megan Ross


Gage Sturman


Jay Songer


Kennah Gregory


Andrew Stein

## LOCKER STALKER

By Shayleanne Gonzalez


Kendall Scott, 6th grade
"My favorite thing in my locker is my big pencil."


Tasha Bell, 7th grade
"My favorite thing in my locker is my very cool sweatshirt."


Olivia Tews, 8th grade
"My favorite thing in my locker is my boa."

## Secret Santas!

By Tia Ervin

There are groups of students all over the school getting presents for friends and being their Secret Santas. The girls on the basketball A-team all decided to have a Secret Sister as their Secret Santa.

In the lunchroom, lots of $7^{\text {th }}$ graders got presents like candles, stress toys, portraits of amazing words, and Harry Potter merch. Mia Settlemyer ended up getting candles for most of the people in her group. One of the girls in one of the groups got a blanket. I'm jealous now... I want a blanket.

The Quest 6th graders also have Secret Santas, except Aliya Davenport put a lot of thought into who her Secret Santa was... she figured out that it was none other than Henry Tunseth. Henry forgot to get a gift at first, so he brought a gift bag with four things in for her the next week. Aliya likes the slime most of all!

Rosie Dura said, "It's fun being secretive." Mattie Castimore said, "I literally have the best S.S. ever. They got me a stuffed animal, a six pack of Sprite, and cake." Liam Mesa got Hot Cheetos and said that food is the best present to get. Samuel Macias got root beer delivered at lunch from his S.S. on the same day that he won a root beer float for Character Counts!

## Super Swags!

By Brooklyn Coleman
Swags have been a KMS tradition ever since 1995, for 28 years! The swags are usually built the Monday before Thanksgiving, but because of a shipping delay the swags didn't get built until November 30th.

Sixth graders spent over four hours making their amazing, beautiful-smelling swags! The swags are $\$ 30$ each and used to raise money for their end of the year camp trip in Chickaloon. While making the swags, they also play some traditional Christmas music!

There are different stages that go along with the swag building. The first stage starts with selecting three boughs and wiring them together. The second stage is to put a wire hook on the back of the bough. The third stage is to attach a bow. And finally, the last stage is to hot glue pine cones.

I asked some of the teachers about their favorite part of the swag building. Mrs. Beck really enjoys it when people come and pick up the swags and they are really excited. She also loves the Christmas music that plays while they build the swags! Mrs. Tews enjoys how everyone feels like they are in the spirit of Christmas! She also loves to get to really see everyone's personalities. Mr. Newton loves the festivity and the smell of the boughs throughout the school.

Great job to the 6th graders for building the amazing swags! If you didn't buy a swag this year, then make sure to get one or two or three next year!

## Magnificent Masks

Students in Ms. Silva's $7^{\text {th }}$ and $8^{\text {th }}$ grade art classes recently completed these amazing animal masks!

"Do not allow people to dim your shine because they are blinded. Tell them to put some sunglasses on."

- Lady Gaga

"You can be everything. You can be the infinite<br>amount of things<br>that people are."<br>- Kesha

## One of KMS's Smallest Residents

By Truman Dodson



You may have noticed little flies all over KMS. They appear to be Drosophila melanogaster, commonly called the "fruit fly." Unfortunately, they are usually labeled as "pests." They are actually quite interesting and should not be necessarily thought of as a "bad thing." Please enjoy their presence!

These little insects are fairly easy to identify with their pale orange body and brightly colored eyes. They quickly scurry and fly around overripe fruit. A good place to find a mass amount of them is a biology laboratory (they are often used in experiments), but they are fairly easy to find in almost any building with the right conditions.

Mr. Tilly, the KMS custodian, has noticed the fruit flies. He says that one of the rumors going around is that the fruit flies come into our school on the produce shipments. Mr. Newton, a 6th grade science teacher, said he overheard some 6th graders boasting about who had the most flies in their locker! Emma Castimore, an 8th grader, reports that they are in her kitchen and like to eat food while she is making it. "I just hope they are getting educated as they spend time in our school," says Mr. Dosko.


## Addiction Affects Everyone

By KMS Reporter

Many people struggle with addiction. Some people in this school do, and many people in this school have family members or friends who do. Sometimes people who are close to someone who is addicted are hurt worse than the person who struggles with the addiction.

I interviewed a teacher here who has had experiences with drug addiction. Her father was a biker who sold drugs and got arrested when she was fairly young. This left her mother single, having men come and go. She and her sisters found comfort in a group of older women who were sex workers. These women gave them marijuana. At this time her mother became addicted to harder drugs like heroin. By the time she was a freshman she had quit everything and was the first person in her family to graduate. This shows that even if you had a hard upbringing and grew up around addicts, you can make it and you don't have to end up like them.

I also grew up around addicts and know family friends who have overdosed. It can be really depressing to see someone that you love choose drugs over you and it's something that kind of haunts you. When I lived in Anchorage, I lived in pretty bad areas; streets had dirty needles in them, so you had to always watch where you were going and never step in a puddle. That is not something a ten year old child should ever have to worry about, and in the past 4-5 years it's gotten even worse.

A drug that has been taking over the streets of cities like Seattle, Portland, and even Anchorage is Fentanyl. Fentanyl is an extremely addictive opioid that is taking over the country like Crack did in the 80 's or Methamphetamine did in the 2000's. Fentanyl is also found in many other street drugs like Heroin, Meth, Crack, Tranq (Horse tranquilizer) and even on rare occasions Marijuana, which is a pretty safe drug otherwise and is even used for medicinal purposes.


People in the streets look like zombies hunched over, holding on to life by a thread. The saddest part is that a lot of these people don't even want help and would rather shoot up. Homeless camps are filled with addicts, with one of the largest and most well known ones being Skid Row in Los Angeles. Camps in Anchorage aren't really as stationary and tend to get taken down around November or December. One thing they do at these camps is handing out clean needles to not spread disease.

I don't really know what would be a solution to this problem, but it's really something that I feel like is not worried about as much as it should be and is kind of just pushed to the side. An example of this would be the homeless in Anchorage, who this year will not have the Sullivan Arena to stay in. Their camps are getting torn down and they have nowhere to go, and some of those homeless are my family members. People will die in the cold, and that is definitely a problem that needs to be addressed more than it has been. What are we doing as a community to try to solve these problems?

## CAN you believe it?

KMS students have brought in hundreds of cans and packages of food this week to donate to local families!


# Fantastic Fortnite 

By Dalton Wik

"Fortnite is a free-to-play game developed by Epic Games that has taken the gaming world by storm, capturing millions of players across the globe. First released in late 2017, Fortnite quickly gained popularity due to its unique blend of shooting and building mechanics." -Epic Games


Default
stares
into
camera

The concept is simple: 100 players are dropped onto an island, and the last person standing wins. One of the game's most popular features is its building. Players can gather materials from the structures and construct walls, ramps, floors, and cones to protect themselves or to quickly navigate the map.


Fortnite new physics

Another thing that makes Fortnite so popular is the unique style of the game; matches usually last about 20 minutes. A typical match starts with all of the people jumping off of a floating blue bus suspended by a yellow hot air balloon. People try to get as much loot from glowing chests as possible. After they get loot, they will fight, trying to get more loot from the other players.

Lyman McBride is an $8^{\text {th }}$ grader at KMS. He is currently unranked because his mom didn't let him play this season. This season Lyman plans to hopefully be diamond. He has been playing for three years and still plays like it's his first time. Lyman is a YouTuber who goes under the name itziceylemon17; he is pulling in the views and hopes to make the bread!

Јฉמuษy

Birthdeys
By Molli Sansotta
01-Kennah Gregory
03-Max Modigh
05-Jonathan Rojo
06-Denali Tucker
08-Mr. Neet
08-Benjamin Gerow
08-Keiralyn Madsen
09-Roman Seyler
11-James Clack
11-Faera Wozniak
12-Tyler Morris
12-Landon Baze
13-Riley Cramer
13-Effie Muster
14-River Kruzick
15-Kailey Crouse
15-Alex Lehmberg
16-Ava Haugstad
16-Daniel Agayar
19-Henry Tunseth
21-Sawyer Graham
22-Morgan Koenig
23-James Martin
23-Uriah Smith
24-Ryder Jewell
24-Rory Rang
25-Jacob Cole
26-Zoe Cole
26-Kaiden Tressler
28-Kenzie Chivers
28-Sierra Hunt
29-Alexander
Grundberg
29-Marley Jones
29-Marley Mesa
30-Emmett Hamilton



This issue of the KMS Purple Pages is brought to you by reporters Kelsie Bliss, Brooklyn Coleman, Truman Dodson, Tia Ervin, Shay Gonzalez, Ava Haugstad, Lucas Loggins, Effie Muster, Eli Pancoast, Molli Sansotta, Nik Sebesta, Sofia Tews, Chayton Todd, Dalton Wik, and Kennedy Wortham, with support from Journalism advisor Mrs. Nabholz. Illustrators for this issue include Truman, Chayton, Nik, and Effie. Thanks to all the students, teachers, staff, and parents who helped with news and photos!
"Don't try to
lessen yourself
for the world;
let the world
catch up to you."

- Beyoncé
"The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." - Lao Tzu


## AWESOMEA-TEAM

By Brooklyn Coleman


What a great season for girls' Ateam! With the girls being undefeated, they earned the 1st place award at boroughs! Practices before boroughs looked like the things the team does well on, such as a lot of 2.on.2, breakaway drills, and scrimmages vs. the boys' Ateam.

The last games before boroughs were Homer and Seward. The girls had a tough start in the first half vs. Homer, but in the second half, the girls stepped up their game! When the girls played Seward, double digits came quickly. The game vs. Seward unfortunately had to be rescheduled because of the snow day on November 9th.

The first game of boroughs was at Nikiski, vs. Homer. According to the bracket, whoever won (Kenai or Homer) would move on to the championship. The girls had an exciting win. Coach said that they used a tricky defense to try to trick us, but it didn't work! Coach Rose was very happy about how the team played. With winning the game vs. Homer, the girls moved on to the championship!

The girls thought that it was awesome to be at a basketball championship! For the championship, the girls played Skyview 8th. Coach said that the first half was pretty rough. Coach said that the girls were hoping that

Skyview would be behind in points in the first half, so they weren't as aggressive. Thankfully, with the opportunity to be able to press in the second half, the girls got some awesome layups and some awesome three-pointers from Bryleigh Williams! Because Kenai has awesome sportsmanship, during the end of the game the girls started doing their man defense (1.on.1). First half the girls were hoping Skyview would lose. And, as soon as that last buzzer rang, KENAI WON!!!!!

At the end of the championship game, the girls were all super excited! There were also lots of paparazzi (parents taking pictures)! By the end of the season, the girls said that doing all of the running and practicing was crazy, but worth it!

This season was great, and the whole team made amazing progress. Everyone was super excited after the game, and we all can't wait until next season so we can win again (fingers crossed)! We're going to make next year even better than this one! Coach said it was a lot of fun, and he was very happy with coaching the girls!

## \#KMShashtags

By Sofia Tews

\# highlighterhappy
\# EXPENSIVEchristmaslist
\# MariahCarey
\# christmastreeinnovember
\# LJ'sannoying
\# Nikesocks
8 \# doordecorating
\# candycanes
\# baldbarbies
\# barbiesheadcameoff
\# barbiesheadisntathome
\# thesmartdonkeyinclass
\# converse
\# newstools
\# stanleysarethenewhydroflask \# playingwiththe"tools"inscience \# embarrassing
\# pajamapantsplaid

## "I know to win

a championship, you're not going to do it alone."

- Klay Thompson


## Boys' B-ball Boroughs

By Eli Pancoast



The KMS boys' basketball A-Team played in the borough tournament last Saturday. They went into boroughs with a 3-2 record; we won against Skyview 7, Nikiski, and Seward, and lost to Skyview 8 and Homer. Skyview 8 was the \#1 seed and Homer was the \#2 seed. Kenai was the \#3 seed, so we had to play Skyview 7 to make it to the next round. We won against Skyview 7 and it wasn't even close. Our next game was going to be a lot tougher.

On Saturday our first game was against Homer. The game started off poorly for us and we went into the half down by 10 . We didn't do so well at the start of the second either. We were down by 17 at one point in the game, but then we started to go on a streak. We brought the game within 5 points with a minute left, but we didn't end up pulling it off.

Our second game was against Skyview for 3rd place. We won the game by a close margin, so Kenai boys A-Team ended in 3rd place at boroughs. We definitely ended with a season well done!

"Dude, you can't hear pictures"

(My honest reaction)

# Anonymous Confessions 

By NBA youngboy \& Sticker the Stickman

"I pop my fingers with my toes" -Anonymous

That sounds like a mess of anatomy. -Sticker the Stickman
"I eat children for a living" -Anonymous

I eat radioactive KMS lunches for a living. -NBA youngboy
"Seriously why do my friends think it's weird that I like to wear socks to bed even if I'm not wearing any pajama pants???" -Anonymous

If anything it's weird that your friends don't wear socks to bed, because wearing socks keeps you straight. -Sticker the Stickman


## CDMPUTER CAPTEDNS

By Eli Pancoast

AI isn't as smart as people think. Microsoft AI came up with some interesting captions in our last few issues of the Purple Pages. We have decided to share with you some of the more creative captions.


A circular chart with different colored circles.


A drawing of a pig with knives and a fork.


A drawing of a pig in a hat.


A group of drawings on white paper.


A drawing of a cat.


Cartoon of dogs and a dog.


A drawing of a fish with a sign.


A drawing of a fish.


A drawing of a drumstick.


May be an image of 5 people.


A drawing of a human body.


A drawing of a monster.


A picture containing text, transport, wheel, disk brake.


A drawing of a snake with a hat.


A child on top of another child on top of another child.


A drawing of a spoon and a fork.


A drawing of a person with a jellyfish.

## Extreme Arthropods

By Truman Dodson

There are millions of arthropods around the world, and as one might expect, many of them look quite different from and live in different places than the ones we are familiar with. Here is a selection of some from around the world with extreme habits and appearances.

## Tailed Whipscorpions (Uropygi)



These arachnids have a long, whip-like extension and elongated front legs. Despite their common name, these arachnids are not scorpions. Their other common name, vinegaroon, refers to their ability to spray a vinegar-like substance.

## Pseudoscorpions (Pseudoscorpiones)



These too are not scorpions. They are very small, globular arachnids. Their pedipalps end in pinchers, giving them their scorpion-like appearance. Pseudoscorpions are predators on other arthropods and can even be found in intertidal habitats (along with other habitats).

## Fairyflies (Mymaridae)

Despite their name, these insects are actually wasps. As seen in this illustration, their wings can sometimes have a strange paddleshape. Fairyflies are one of the most microscopic insects.


## Queen Alexandra's Birdwing (Ornithoptera alexandrae)



Being up to almost 25 centimeters, this is the world's largest butterfly. It is endangered due to habitat loss and collectors. These collectors sell them on the black market, which is illegal. These butterflies live in Papua New Guinea.

## Belgica antarctica

These little black insects are able to survive in Antarctica. Although one could stand on the tip of your finger, they are considered the largest land animals on that continent.

Special thanks to Bugguide and the American Museum of Natural History.


# "Have a (adjective) Christmas" Mad Lib <br> By Nik Sebesta 

One $\qquad$ (adjective) Christmas morning, my $\qquad$ (relative) and I had to get the $\qquad$ (noun) ready for the $\qquad$ (adjective) $\qquad$ (noun). I had to clean the entire $\qquad$ (noun). It took $\qquad$ (number) hours. My $\qquad$ (noun) set
the table and cooked lots of food, including $\qquad$ (noun), $\qquad$ (noun), and
$\qquad$ (adjective) $\qquad$ (plural noun). My $\qquad$ (noun) set up the
$\qquad$ (noun) and my $\qquad$ (noun) set up the $\qquad$ (plural noun) outside.

When everybody got there we ate $\qquad$ (noun) then we decorated the $\qquad$ (noun).

We added so many $\qquad$ (adjective) ornaments, like a $\qquad$ (noun) on the top. Then we opened all the $\qquad$ (plural noun). I got $\qquad$ (plural noun), my
$\qquad$ (noun) got $\qquad$ (noun), and I gave my $\qquad$ (relative) a
(noun). We had such a $\qquad$ (adjective) time! We went to play (game) later that day, then everybody had to go $\qquad$ (place), and then

I went to $\qquad$ (noun). THE $\qquad$ (noun)


## Christmas Criss-Cross

By Shayleanne Gonzalez
Bells
Blizzard
Candy
Christmas
Christmas Lights
Christmas Tree
Elves
Family
Fireplace
Grinch
Holiday
Mistletoe
Ornaments
Presents
Reindeer
Santa
Sledding
Snow
Snowman
Stocking
Sweater
Vacation

## 25 differences - can you spot them all?

By Nik Sebesta



## Just Some Jolly Jokes

By Nik Sebesta

What kind of ball doesn't bounce? A snowball!
What's the weatherman's favorite food in winter? Brrr-itos!

What can you catch in the winter, even with your eyes closed? A cold!

Why did Rudolph have to attend summer school? Because he went down in history!

What kind of money do elves use? Jingle bills!

Why does Scrooge love Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer? Because every buck is dear to him!

What is a vegan's favorite Christmas carol? Soy to the World!

What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire? Frostbite!

How do you help someone who has lost their Christmas spirit? Nurse them back to elf!

How much did Santa pay for his sleigh?
Nothing - it was on the house!

## Tolly Holly Name Game

By Effie M. Muster
aka "Jolly Eggnog Yeti"
From first to middle to the last initial,
You need to avoid the elf cop's bristle.
You've stolen Santa's presents and need to hide, Find an alibi to protect your gift thief pride!

| A = Sparkly | A = Ornament | A = Elf |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| B $=$ Shiny | B = Flying | $\mathrm{B}=$ Bear |
| C = Candy | C = Polar | $\mathrm{C}=$ Reindeer |
| D = Wrapped | D = Cookie | D = Sleigh |
| E = Jolly | $\mathrm{E}=$ Cinnamon | $\mathrm{E}=$ Man |
| F = South | $\mathrm{F}=$ Chocolate | $\mathrm{F}=$ Penguin |
| $\mathrm{G}=$ Gangster | G = Fuzzy | $\mathrm{G}=$ Cane |
| H = Joyful | H = South | $\mathrm{H}=$ Pole |
| $\mathrm{I}=$ Bumfuzzled | $\mathrm{I}=$ Spicy | $\mathrm{I}=$ Cookie |
| J = Lovely | $\mathrm{J}=$ Wabbit | $\mathrm{J}=$ Rabbit |
| K = Stinky | K = Frosty | $\mathrm{K}=$ Wreath |
| L = Satisfactory | L = Skibidi | L = Goose |
| $\mathrm{M}=$ Festive | M = Eggnog | $\mathrm{M}=\mathrm{Yeti}$ |
| $\mathrm{N}=$ Decorative | $\mathrm{N}=$ Candy | $\mathrm{N}=$ Mistletoe |
| $\mathrm{O}=$ Generous | O = Sweet | $\mathrm{O}=$ Stocking |
| $\mathrm{P}=$ North | $\mathrm{P}=$ Freezing | $\mathrm{P}=$ Candle |
| $\mathrm{Q}=$ Caroling | $\mathrm{Q}=$ Carolers | $\mathrm{Q}=$ Carols |
| $\mathrm{R}=$ Merry | $\mathrm{R}=$ Snowy | $\mathrm{R}=$ Tidings |
| $\mathrm{S}=$ Festive | S = Silly | S = Toilet |
| T = Sweet | T = Funny | T = Cranberry |
| $\mathrm{U}=$ Lavish | $\mathrm{U}=$ North | $\mathrm{U}=$ Angel |
| $\mathrm{V}=$ Ginger | $\mathrm{V}=\mathrm{Bread}$ | $\mathrm{V}=$ Tree |
| W = Colorful | W = Peppermint | $\mathrm{W}=$ Weirdo |
| X = Naughty | $\mathrm{X}=$ Fruit | X = Presents |
| $\mathrm{Y}=$ Nice | $\mathrm{Y}=$ Bright | $\mathrm{Y}=$ Cake |
| $\mathrm{Z}=$ Spicy | $\mathrm{Z}=$ Crispy | $\mathrm{Z}=$ Chimney |

Holiday Humor
By Nik Sebesta
What did the snowman say to the aggressive carrot?

Get outta my face!


What is one of the best Christmas presents that you can give and receive?

A broken drum.
Why? Because you can't beat it!

What do you call a blind reindeer? Noeye deer!

What do you call a blind reindeer with no legs? Still no-eye deer!


Have you ever wondered if Santa is real?

Well, he is . . . just now
he's bald and works
as the principal
at Kenai Middle School!



## Overheard

By Truman Dodson
"He just always expects me to be robbing a bank." "Letting my inner babushka out."

"Can I get the mullet that's still in my backpack?"
"Stop hitting me with your disassembled baby."
"This water is made of tiny chunks."
Person 1: "Can I borrow your child?"
Person 2: "No!"
Person 1: "But sharing is caring!"
"I just sang the magical note, and now
I'm crying."

"Put away your swagginess."
"I can't kiss my eye!"
"Then I will shiver me timbers."


Student 1: "No, there is only one woman."
Student 2: "That's more than I can talk to."
"Who buys farmers from apples? Wait a sec..."
"You're throwing a goat at me."
"Did you know that boiling water isn't hot?"
"Don't guzzle so fast you hurl."
"That's a scary elf!"


"I have never been alive in my lifetime."
Student 1: "Where does she get these labels?"
Student 2: "I don't know, we could interrogate her." "I just did one of those cartoon sneezes."
"Is it possible to make one
in the shape of a
capybara?"
Student 1: *SNEEZE*
Student 2: "Bless me."
"Your hair is the best looking in the 7th grade."
"Magic fairy pixie dust treadmill runners."
"It smelled so bad from the rotting dead bodies and oil...but it was fun."
Student 1: "You killed her."
Student 2: "She'll live..."

"I'M NOT BRITISH!"
"I did some flirting with Asia."

"Nothing worse than a little seal with an amputated nose."
"Stop touching with my exhusband."
"This is my emotional support penguin."
"You're being violent with a hole puncher."
"They literally infect the chocolate through the wrappers."
Student 1: "Can we just not use big words today?"
Student 2: "I'm sorry for your inconvenience."
"This song isn't emo. My mom listens to it."
"I need to make another redemption squirrel."


